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A N N U A L R E P O R T
OF THE
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
A N D
P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R
FOR THE
YEAR
I 9 5 8.

SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. Rudkin, J.P. (Chairman of the Council)
Councillor G. Dawson (Chairman of the Committee)
Councillor N. H. Emmence
Councillor A. Buttler
Councillor L. Kidd.
Councillor J. T. Parratt
Councillor E. A. Romney

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John W. Scholey, M.B., Ch.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER.

T. E. Dagwell, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as Smoke Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

HOUSING OFFICER'S ASSISTANT.

A. V. Barraclough

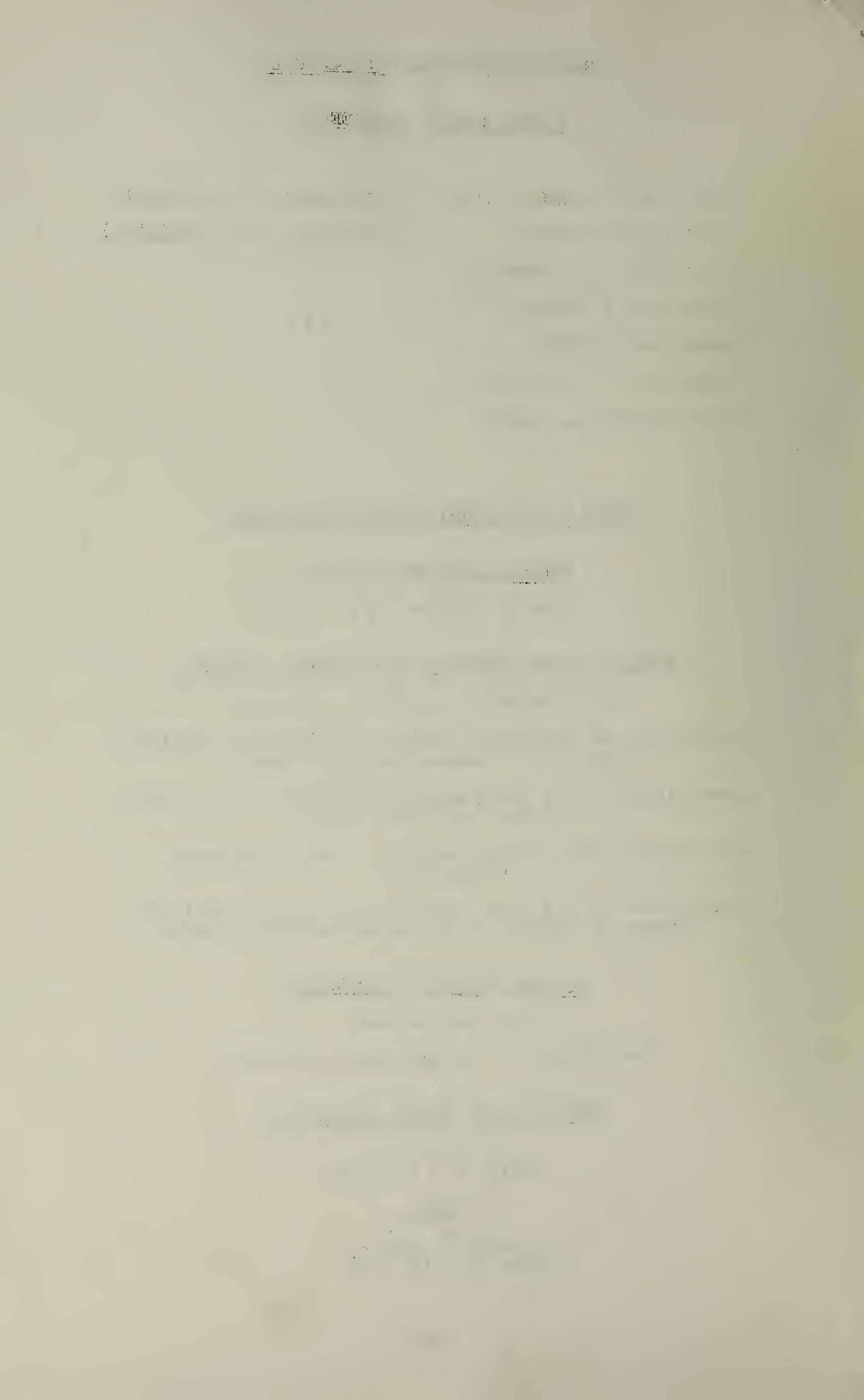
Certificate of the Institute of Housing.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

J. Foster.
(until 30 - 11 - 58)

CLERK.

Miss W. Carr.
(from 15 - 12 - 58)



The Surgery,
Northgate,
Sleaford.

28th May, 1960.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report for the year 1958.

It will be seen from the statistics given that the health of the community remained on the whole very good. The vital statistics approximate closely to the national average.

Although the notifications of infectious diseases were gratifyingly low, the number of cases of Food Poisoning notified were by comparison very high. This once again stresses the need for all persons engaged in the preparation and handling of food to exercise the closest attention to personal hygiene and cleanliness. There is no doubt that many of these cases, which appear to be on the increase, are due to carelessness on the part of such people.

Efforts have again been made to induce the Ministry to consider Sleaford as a suitable place for a hospital. The impression gained, however has been that the Ministry prefer to concentrate their hospital centres not un-naturally, in the more densely populated areas. We are however, fortunate in having a small Maternity unit here which has functioned satisfactorily and to the benefit of the local community.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and vaccination against Smallpox have both been carried out with a fair response from the local inhabitants.

A start was made on the immunisation of a limited number of people against acute Poliomyelitis and great things are hoped for from this protection.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Council for their help and co-operation in my endeavours. I would also like to thank the staff of the Public Health Department for their work in the past year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

Dr. JOHN W. SCHOLEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	4,549
Population - 1951 Census	7,282
- Registrar General's Estimate, 30/6/58	7,480
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book	2,330
Number of new houses completed during the year	2
Rateable value as at 1st October, 1958	£93,964
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 382

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	Legitimate	41	47	88
	Illegitimate	-	5	5
	Totals	41	52	93
Still Births	Legitimate	2	-	2
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
	Totals	2	-	2
<u>Birth Rates</u>		<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	
Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population		14.34	12.43	
Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of of the estimated population		14.63	12.68	
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (England and Wales)		16.10	16.4	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births		18.69	21.05	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births (England and Wales)		-	21.6	
<u>DEATHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of Deaths	64	70	134	
Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population		19.57	17.91	
Death Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population		11.35	10.21	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (England and Wales.)		11.50	11.7	

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of Deaths - Legitimate	-	1	1
- Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	1

1957 1958

Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	19.04	10.75
Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births (England and Wales)	23.00	22.5

<u>CAUSES OF DEATH</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Respiratory Tuberculosis.	-	-	-
Other Tuberculosis.	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease.	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Measles.	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	3	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	5	5	10
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	10	9	19
Coronary Disease, angina.	17	8	25
Hyper-tension with heart disease.	4	-	4
Other heart disease.	12	21	33
Other circulatory disease.	4	5	9
Influenza.	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	3	4	7
Bronchitis.	1	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	-	-
Hyper-plasia of prostate.	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	7	8
Motor vehicle accidents.	-	-	-
All other accidents.	2	2	4
Suicide.	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-
TOTAL		64	70
134			

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Kesteven County Council through the Public Health Department operates the health services under Part II of the National Health Services Act, 1946. Services provided include ante and post-natal care together with a midwife service, health visiting and home nursing, a domestic health service and the ambulance service. The Kesteven County Council operates a clinic at Riversdale House, Westgate, which provides for the majority of the local facilities.

Hospital Services.

The lack of a local hospital has continued to cause the Council considerable concern and it's efforts to persuade the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board that there is a need for some hospital services to be provided locally have been undiminished. General hospitals are now provided at Lincoln, Grantham and Boston with facilities for maternity needs at Sleaford, Lincoln and Grantham.

Laboratory Facilities.

Use is made by the department and local practitioners of the services provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln. Water samples are sent to the Public Analyst, Mr. W. Taylor, 16, Hamilton Road, Sherwood, Nottingham, when both bacteriological and chemical examinations are required.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 55 cases of infectious diseases were notified.

Measles	35
Whooping Cough	7
Pneumonia	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Erysipelas	1
Meningitis	1
Tuberculosis	5

Food Poisoning.

It will be noticed that 12 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. In each instance the causative organism was *Salmonella Typhi-murium* and all cases were unconnected except within families. No direct connection with food was found in any instance.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1941 to 1947.

A number of persons who it was thought might have to be dealt with under this section were visited during the year, but in no case was it considered necessary to take action.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

1958.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my eleventh Annual Report on the Environmental Health Services of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

The Public Health work of the department has largely centred round unfit housing. Since renewed progress has been possible in the building of new houses, work was concentrated on the representation of unfit houses in the Council's programme. The Council decided to set aside 66 houses on the Boston Road Estate for rehousing purposes and it is anticipated that sufficient clearance areas will be dealt with to more than cover this number.

Fewer houses became available for letting for general needs but whilst the number of applicants on the list remains constant it can be acknowledged that the housing position in Sleaford compares very favourably with most other authorities.

I am pleased to record that Mr. J. Foster lately pupil Assistant in my Department qualified as a Public Health Inspector toward the end of the year. He left the service of the Council shortly after since the establishment of the department does not at present carry a qualified assistant Inspector. His resignation enabled some re-organisation of the department to be carried out and he and the temporary part-time Clerk were replaced by a General Assistant and a full time Junior Clerk, the Housing Assistant being relieved of all routine clerical work at the same time.

I have to thank the Council for their support and my fellow Officers, in particular those in my own department for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

T. E. DAGWELL,

Public Health Inspector & Housing Officer.

HOUSING.

Council Housing.

No Council houses were built during 1958. The Council had under consideration however the development of 12.25 acres of land on the Boston Road adjoining The Old Place. By the end of the year the Council had agreed the site layout to include 88 Council houses and bungalows and for the frontage land to be made available for private building. The building of Council houses was put out to tender and the Contract awarded in October. The Contractor had not commenced work by the end of December. The Boston Road site provides for 66 houses of which 6 only are to be two bedroomed and 22 bungalows four of which are to be one bedroomed. It is anticipated that the estate will be largely used for rehousing families from unfit houses due to be demolished.

During the year 20 houses became available for re-letting and were allocated to 18 families on the general housing list and 2 from unfit houses.

Maintenance of the Council's houses proceeded satisfactorily. At the commencement of the financial year the Council again agreed that the balance of maintenance work in excess of that which could reasonably be carried out by the Council's bricklayer should be completed by outside Contractors. A second bricklayer was employed temporarily during the middle of the year and was retained to carry out certain improvement works to the Grantham Road Estate and remained after these works had been completed to carry on with maintenance.

During the year I suggested to the Council that they consider the modernization of the pre-war Council houses. All the pre-war Council houses have un-plastered kitchens and the majority have no hot water systems and in the majority also the bathrooms are used as wash-houses and are unplastered. As a pilot scheme the Council undertook the improvement of 12 houses on the Grantham Road Estate. The work carried out was found to be most acceptable to the tenants and was welcomed in every case, notwithstanding the fact that a slight increase in the repairs fund contribution by each tenant was made to assist in covering the cost of the work. I hope it will not be many years before all of the Council's pre-war houses are brought up to a similar standard of amenity as that which the tenants of post-war houses enjoy.

Private Housing.

Only two private houses were completed during 1958. Since only two were completed in 1957 there has been a virtual standstill in private house building for 2 years. The shortage of building sites has no doubt been largely responsible for this and the provision of a number of sites by the Council on the Boston Road Estate should considerably ease this position.

Unfit Housing.

Considerably more progress has been made during this year in dealing with unfit houses included in the Council's programme. The prospect of houses being available in 1959 to re-house those dis-placed enabled the programme to be proceeded with and the majority of the public health work of the department concerned unfit housing during the last few months of the year.

By the end of December the following had been dealt with:-

Clearance Areas.

(a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, William's Square, 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13, 15, 19, West Banks and 1, Slea Cottages, together with certain "other buildings" were declared to be the West Banks No. 1 Clearance Area on the 6th August, 1958 and the Sleaford Urban District (West Banks No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958, was made at the same time to include the whole of the properties within that Clearance Area, together with a small portion of cleared land, its inclusion being necessary to ensure the proper development of the site.

(b) 6, 7, 8, 9/10, Reform Place were declared to be the Reform Place Clearance Area on the 3rd December, 1958 and the Sleaford Urban District (Reform Place) Clearance Order, 1958 was made at the same time.

(c) 60, 60a, West Banks, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, Westgate and 1, 2, 3, 4, Wilson's Yard were considered by the Public Health Committee at their December meeting, a recommendation to the January Council meeting being made that they include the property in a Clearance Area and that a Compulsory Purchase Order be made in respect of the Clearance Area.

(d) Sleaford Urban District No. 18, Clearance Order, 1934. The three houses included in this order became empty during the early part of the year following the expiration of the licence covering their temporary occupation. The houses were demolished in May.

Individual Unfit Houses.

(a) 6, Hill's Court. This house in respect of which a demolition order was made on the 28th October, 1957, was demolished March, 1958.

(b) 1, 2, 3, 4, Reform Place. These four houses adjoining the Reform Place Clearance Area were dealt with as individual unfit houses to enable the owners thereof to carry out conversions by making two houses into one, providing them with the necessary amenities and putting them into a satisfactory state of repair. Notices of Time and Place were served in July, 1958, the owners in due course giving undertakings to carry out such work as is necessary to render the houses fit for human habitation within six months of their vacation.

(c) 54, 56, 58, West Banks. Notices of Time and Place were served on the owner of these houses on the 4th December, 1958. Their future was due to be considered during 1959.

Improvement Grants.

Five applications for improvement grants were approved during the year, the total amount of the grants being made being £630.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts.	140
Number of inspections made for the purpose.	201
(b) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading (a) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	57
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	55
(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-headings) found not to be in all respects, reasonably fit for habitation.	24

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their Officers.

20

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	NIL
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices.	
(i) By owners.	NIL
(ii) By local authority in default of owners.	NIL
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	NIL
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices.	NIL
(a) By owners.	NIL
(b) By local authority in default of owners.	NIL
(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	NIL
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	1

(d) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.

NIL

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit.

NIL

(e) Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i) Number of Clearance Orders made

1

(ii) Number of Compulsory Purchase Orders made

1

(iii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance thereof.

3

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Public Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection.

The Council continued to provide two slaughterhouses as public slaughterhouses. The service throughout the year has, considering the difficulties consequent upon the stock for the whole week's killing being received on one day, been satisfactory. There seems no alternative to late night slaughtering on Monday when cattle are received in the slaughterhouse as they often are as late as 2 o'clock in the afternoon, if the butchers using the slaughterhouses are to have a reasonable amount of dressed carcase meat for collection on Tuesday morning. 100% meat inspection was again carried out notwithstanding the need to carry out a considerable number of hours overtime. The amount of meat condemned during the year was 3 tons 19 cwts. 92 lbs., some 25 cwts. less than the previous year.

The percentage of cattle affected by tuberculosis has remained stationary. There has however been some increase in the number of carcases affected to some degree by Cysticercosis. It will be seen however from the table following that it was considered necessary to send only 15 of the carcases found to be affected for refrigeration. In the remaining cases no cysts could be found that were other than in a degenerated condition.

The principal reasons for condemnation of the meat referred to above follow:-

<u>BEASTS</u>		Lbs.
1 Beast and all organs	Generalised Tuberculosis	770
3 Beasts' forequarters	Tuberculosis	500
1 Beast forequarter	Injury and Oedema	60
Beef and beast organs	Various conditions and diseases	3,757
<u>CALVES</u>		
1 Calf and all organs		49
1 Calf and all organs	Ill bled and Oedema	96
Veal and calf organs	Various conditions and deseases	9
<u>PIGS</u>		
1 Pig and all organs		142
1 Sow and all organs	Uraemia	390
1 Sow and all organs	Septic Metritis	266
1 Pig and all organs	Pyaemia	55
1 Sow and all organs	Generalised Tuberculosis	410
1 Pig and all organs	Fevered	69
1 Pig and all organs	Moribund	96
Pork and Pig organs	Various conditions and diseases	1,665
<u>SHEEP</u>		
3 Sheep and all organs	Moribund	250
3 Sheep and all organs	Toxaemia	219
1 Lamb and all organs	Badly Bleed	74
Mutton and sheep organs	Various conditions and diseases	63

1958	CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP & LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed and inspected	798	6	2,298	2,098
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>				
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	2	7	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	163	3	26	180
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	21.68	83.3	1.00	8.87
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>				
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	55	-	-	64
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.02	-	-	3.09
<u>Cysticercosis</u>				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	24	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	15	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-
Percentage of beast's inspected affected with Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-

Other Foods.

The following premises are registered in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The manufacture of sausage, etc.	10
The manufacture, sale and storage of ice-cream.	2
Storage and sale only of ice-cream.	20

Food premises are classified as under:-

Grocers.	12
Green Grocers	9

General Stores.	8
Butchers.	11
Sweets and Confectionery.	9
Bakehouses.	5
Restaurants.	7
Residential Hotels.	4
Other Licenced Premises.	20
	—
	85
	—

Milk Supply.

The following were registered in the district at
1 - 1 - 58:-

Distributors.	8
---------------	---

Dealer's licences issued in respect of designated milk
at 1 - 1 - 58 were:-

Tuberculin Tested	1
Paste urised	1
Sterilised	8

Samples of milk and cream taken have in all cases
proved satisfactory.

Ice-cream.

The number of manufacturers of ice-cream is now two.
Both premises, one of which is cold mix, were frequently
inspected during the season of production.

There are now 20 premises registered for the storage
and sale only, two additional premises having been registered
during the year.

Samples taken showed the ice-cream to be of satisfactory
bacterial quality.

Other Foods Condemned.

The undermentioned foods, other than fresh meat, have
been examined and found to be unfit for food:-

1 tin of Corned Beef	Blown
1 6lb tin of Corned Beef	Damaged and unsound
1 6lb tin of Corned Beef	Punctured tin
1 tin of Luncheon Meat	Unsound
1 6lb tin of Corned Beef	Blown
1 1lb tin of Ox Tongue	Blown
Ox Tongue	Unsound
3½ lbs of Bacon	Haemorrhages
1 6lb tin of Ox Tongue	Damaged tin
5 lbs 2 ozs of breakfast Sausage	Unsound
1 4lb tine of Pork Luncheon Meat	Unso und
1 tin of Apricot Pulp	Punctured

Other foods are disposed of by burying in the Council's
refuse tip after mutilation. Amounts of such food are usually
quite small. In certain cases, where food is condemned at
institutions, destruction is by burning.

WATER SUPPLY.

The work of extending the 4" main to Holdingham was completed during the year. Tenders were also received and accepted and the work completed for the laying of a 4" main extension on the Boston Road.

Further meetings of representatives of Authorities which it is proposed should constitute the Kesteven Water Board were held during the year.

The source of the Council's supply has been adequate and of good quality. Chemical and bacteriological reports on samples having been satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The completed sewerage works having been put into full operation during 1957, were, generally speaking, able to produce an effluent to the satisfaction of the River's Board. Difficulty was again experienced in coping with dry weather flows due to the large amount of infiltration. The apparent inadequacy of the sludge drying beds was confirmed by the Consultants and a scheme for increasing the area of sludge drying beds was provisionally approved by the Council but later amended to provide for cold digestion of the sludge together with a provision of a further 716 square yards of sludge bed area. It is anticipated by the Consultants that the provision of the additional sludge treatment facilities together with the modification of the balancing chamber should overcome the sludge disposal difficulties. The Consultants were further instructed to investigate the problem of infiltration. It seems fairly apparent that infiltration is wide spread and cannot be pin-pointed in any way. It is clear also that a good deal of infiltration arises from defective house drainage systems as well as from the sewerage system.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

There has been no change in the refuse disposal services during the year, and a weekly collection of refuse has been maintained from almost all premises within the Urban District. It was found necessary to replace the refuse collection vehicle during the year.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

A licence to establish a caravan site at Claremont Place was issued. The site provides for 18 residential caravans together with an area for 8 casual vans. The provision of this site fulfils a need which has long been evident. Considerable numbers of holiday makers and others using caravans need facilities for night stops and there are in this area few such facilities provided. The site whilst having been in use only a few months was maintained in a proper manner. The problem of itinerant caravan dwellers who carry on the business of dealer has been a lesser problem during this year. Licences to station individual caravans on land were issued to three persons.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	6.	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	60	19	-	--
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	66	20	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases where defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Referred					
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.		
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-	
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-	-	-	-	
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offenses against the Act (not including offenses relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	2	2	-	-	-	

